

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 03256 111601Z

63

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05

BIB-01 DODE-00 NIC-01 /089 W
----- 124566

R 111527Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8006

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 3256

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, UR

SUBJECT: USA JOURNAL ON MBFR

REF: MOSCOW 0178

1. SUMMARY. THE MARCH ISSUE OF THE JOURNAL OF THE USA INSTITUTE CONTAINS A SHORT ARTICLE ON MBFR TITLED "REALISM: KEY TO SUCCESS OF THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS." THE AUTHOR, V.M. KOMLYEV, WHO IS NOT A USA INSTITUTE STAFF MEMBER, MAINTAINS THAT REDUCTIONS MUST BE "OF EQUAL VALUE," AND THAT THE BALANCE OF FORCES WHICH HAS DEVELOPED IN CENTRAL EUROPE IS "APPROXIMATELY" EQUAL. HE SAYS THAT ASYMMETRIC CUTS IN PERSONNEL STRENGTH OF GROUND FORCES WOULD CHANGE BALANCE TO NATO'S ADVANTAGE. END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 03256 111601Z

2. THE ARTICLE INTRODUCES SOME NEW TWISTS IN THE FORMULATIONS IT USES REGARDING THE SOVIET POSITIONS ON MBFR. IT PICKS UP USE OF THE TERM "REDUCTIONS OF EQUAL VALUE" (RAVNOTSENNYE SOKRASHCHENIYA) USED IN AN EDITORIAL IN RED STAR IN JANUARY (REFTEL). IN DISCUSSING WHAT THE WARSAW PACT STATES WANT FROM THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS, IT ALSO SAYS THAT THE BALANCE OF FORCES WHICH HAS DEVELOPED IN CENTRAL EUROPE IS "APPROXIMATELY EQUAL" (PRIMERNO RAVNOYE SOOTNOSHENIYE SIL.

3. KOMLYEV GOES ON TO EXPLAIN, HOWEVER, THAT THE "REAL BALANCE OF FORCES" CREATES NO BASIS FOR WESTERN INSISTENCE ON ASYMMETRIC REDUCTIONS. AT THE SAME TIME, HE IMPLIES THAT HE HAS PRIMARILY IN MIND ASYMMETRIC CUTS IN GROUND FORCES, NOT IN WEAPONS SYSTEMS, BY SAYING THAT "A CHANGE IN THE COMPARABLE PERSONNEL STRENGTHS OF GROUND FORCES WOULD LEAD TO A CHANGE IN THE GENERAL BALANCE OF FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE TO NATO'S ADVANTAGE."

4. KOMLYEV EMPHASIZES THAT NATO REFUSES TO REDUCE ITS AIR FORCES AND "AVOIDS" THE QUESTION OF A REDUCTION OF WEAPONS, INCLUDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, AND OF COMBAT EQUIPMENT.

5. HE SAYS THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE FRG TO NATO MILITARY STRENGTH IS "ESPECIALLY SIGNIFICANT" AND NOTES THAT SECRETARY SCHLESINGER HAS STATED THAT THE FRG PLAYS A "DECISIVE ROLE" IN THE DEFENSE OF EUROPE.

6. KOMLYEV REFERS TO THE SCHLESINGER PRESS CONFERENCE OF DECEMBER 11, 1974, CLAIMING THAT IT CONTAINS AN "UNAMBIGUOUS INDICATION OF THE GREAT ROLE" PLAYED BY NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN NATO PLANS.

7. KOMLYEV DESCRIBES THE WARSAW PACT OCTOBER 1974 PROPOSAL, MAKING THE USUAL CLAIM THAT THIS PROPOSAL HAS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT NATO POSITIONS. HE ARGUES THAT THE WARSAW PACT PROPOSAL WOULD ALLOW THE PARTICIPANTS

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 03256 111601Z

"TO TRANSLATE WORDS INTO ACTIONS" AND CONTINUES THAT "EVEN A RELATIVELY SMALL REDUCTION" WOULD DO MUCH TO IMPROVE THE POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE AND SHOW THE PARTICIPANTS' READINESS TO BEGIN MILITARY DETENTE IN EUROPE.

8. WE HAVE LEARNED THAT KOMLYEV IS NOT A STAFF MEMBER OF THE USA INSTITUTE. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO SET UP AN

APPOINTMENT WITH HIM TO DISCUSS THE ARTICLE.
STOESSEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PERSONAL OPINION, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, MILITARY CAPABILITIES, MILITARY POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW03256
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750085-0551
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750362/aaaaceea.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MOSCOW 0178
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <08 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: USA JOURNAL ON MBFR
TAGS: PARM, UR, NATO, MBFR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006